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Passaic River – Contaminated Sediment Removal Project
Community Interview Questions

October 2008

The following questions pertain to the contaminated sediment removal project that will be undertaken in the lower Passaic River by Tierra Solutions, Inc. under EPA oversight. Answers to these questions will be used by EPA in the development of a community involvement plan for the project. General background on the project and sources of additional information are included as an attachment and may be helpful to you in answering the questions.

1. Do you have concerns with or questions about the planned removal of contaminated sediment from the lower Passaic River (i.e., the "removal project")? If yes, what are they?

2. Which topics, decisions or issues would you like information or opportunities for input on?

3. Which of the project reports or plans identified in the attachment do you feel are most critical to either you, or the public in general, to review and comment on?

4. Who specifically in the community should EPA reach out to as the removal project is planned and implemented?

5. What are the most effective tools for sharing information and providing input? (e.g., fact sheets, public meetings or sessions, Web site, stakeholder meetings, media interviews, etc.)

6. Does the community need technical assistance support to understand this project better and/or to effectively provide input to EPA on the project plans and reports? Do you feel that the community is aware of Passaic River Coalition's Technical Assistance Grant (TAG) and how to seek their assistance?

7. What source(s) of information would you prefer to get information from? (e.g., EPA, State of New Jersey, Tierra Solutions, media, elected officials, etc.)

8. How often would you like to get information about the project? (e.g., at regular project team meetings, more frequently than the project team meetings, monthly, quarterly, etc.)

9. What would be the best location to hold a public meeting or information session with the public to discuss the removal project?

10. Do you have any other concerns, suggestions or comments about the removal project?

ATTACHMENT

GENERAL BACKGROUND ON REMOVAL PROJECT

Information on the removal project can be found at www.ourpassaic.org. On this Web site you will find:

Administrative Order on Consent and Statement of Work (http://projects.pirnie.com/projectsites/premis_public/DM/index.cfm/Removal%20Agreement.pdf?fuseaction=GetDoc&DocId=9235)

Work Plan for the Phase 1 Engineering Evaluation/Cost Analysis (EE/CA) http://projects.pirnie.com/projectsites/premis_public/DM/index.cfm/Final%20EECA%20WP%208_29_08.pdf?fuseaction=GetDoc&DocId=9391

Phase 1:

During Phase 1 of the removal project, 40,000 cubic yards of the most highly contaminated sediment will be removed directly in front of the Diamond Alkali site in Newark. Sediment will be removed to an approximate depth of 12 feet below sediment surface. Work will be contained by a sheet pile enclosure. Sediment will be sent to an off-site disposal facility.

- **Phase 1 Engineering Evaluation/Cost Analysis (EE/CA) (mid-November 2008 release)**

  The Phase 1 EE/CA will be made available to the public for a 30-day review and comment. The EE/CA will identify the scope, goals, and objectives of the removal action and will include a proposed schedule for completion of removal activities. It will identify removal action alternatives that will meet the objectives of the removal action and evaluate the developed alternatives for effectiveness, implementability, and cost. The EE/CA will also compare alternatives.

- **Phase 1 Action Memorandum (January 2009)**

  Describes the selected removal plan and responds to public comments.

- **Removal Design Work Plan for Phase 1 (early 2009)**

  The Removal Design Work Plan shall include plans and schedules for implementation of all Phase 1 design tasks identified in the Statement of Work (SOW) attached to the Administrative Order on Consent dated June 23, 2008, including:
  -- Sampling and Analysis Plan for Off-Site Disposal of Dredged Material
  -- Quality Assurance Plan
  -- Health and Safety Plan
  -- Geotechnical Investigation Plan
  -- Sediment Assessment
  -- Sediment Excavation Enclosure Plan
  -- Sediment Excavation Plan
  -- Post-Phase I/Pre-Phase II Condition Plan
  -- Transportation Plan for Off-Site Disposal
  -- Water Treatment Plan (dredged material supernatant)
  -- Habitat Assessment/Restoration Studies

- **Removal Design work (performed throughout 2009)**

- **Phase 1 Removal Design Report**
- **Removal Action Work Plan**

  Provides for the construction and implementation of the Phase I Removal Design Work Plan.

- **Phase 1 Removal (performed 2010 – 2011)**
- **Phase 1 Final Report (60 days after completion of Phase 1 work)**

  The final report will summarize the actions taken to comply with the Administrative Order on Consent. It will include an estimate of total costs or a statement of actual costs incurred, a listing of quantities and types of materials removed off-Site or handled on-Site, a discussion of removal and disposal options considered for those materials, a listing of the ultimate destination(s) of those materials, a presentation of the analytical results of all sampling and analyses performed, and accompanying appendices containing all relevant documentation generated during the removal action.

Phase 2:

During Phase 2 of the removal project, 160,000 cubic yards of contaminated sediment will be removed adjacent to the Diamond Alkali site in Newark. Work will be contained by a sheet pile enclosure. Sediment will be placed in a Confined Disposal Facility within the Newark Bay area.

- **Work Plan for Phase 2 Engineering Evaluation/Cost Analysis (EE/CA) (30 days after EPA approval of Phase 1 Removal Design Work Plan; early 2009)**

  The Phase 2 EE/CA will be made available to the public for 30-day review and comment. The EE/CA will identify the scope, goals, and objectives of the removal action, with a proposed schedule for completion of removal activities; and identifies removal action alternatives that will meet the objectives of the removal action and evaluates the developed alternatives for effectiveness, implementability, and cost, as well as comparing the alternatives.

- **Phase 2 Engineering Evaluation/Cost Analysis (EE/CA)**

  The Phase 2 EE/CA will be made available to the public for a 30-day review and comment. The EE/CA will identify the scope, goals, and objectives of the removal action and will include a proposed schedule for completion of removal activities. It will identify removal action alternatives that will meet the objectives of the removal action and evaluate the developed alternatives for effectiveness, implementability, and cost. The EE/CA will also compare alternatives.

- **Phase 2 Action Memorandum**

  Describes the selected removal plan and responds to public comments.

- **Removal Design Work Plan for Phase 2**

  The Removal Design Work Plan shall include plans and schedules for implementation of all Phase 1 design tasks identified in the Statement of Work (SOW) attached to the Administrative Order on Consent dated June 23, 2008, including:
  -- Health and Safety Plan
  -- Geotechnical Investigation Plan(excavation site & CDF location)

-- Sediment Assessment
-- Sediment Excavation Enclosure Plan
-- Sediment Excavation Plan
-- Materials Handling and Transportation Plan
-- Water Treatment Plan (dredged material supernatant)
-- Confined Disposal Facility (CDF) Enclosure & Cap Design
-- Long Term Monitoring Program
-- Post-Phase II Condition Plan
-- Habitat Assessment & Restoration Studies

- **Removal Design work**
- **Phase 2 Removal Design Report**
- **Removal Action Work Plan**

  Provides for the construction and implementation of the Phase 2 Removal Design Work Plan.

- **Phase 2 Removal**
- **Phase 2 Final Report (60 days after completion of Phase 2 work)**

  The final report will summarize the actions taken to comply with the Administrative Order on Consent. It will include an estimate of total costs or a statement of actual costs incurred, a listing of quantities and types of materials removed off-Site or handled on-Site, a discussion of removal and disposal options considered for those materials, a listing of the ultimate destination(s) of those materials, a presentation of the analytical results of all sampling and analyses performed, and accompanying appendices containing all relevant documentation generated during the removal action.